

PORTLAND GAZETTE,

And Maine Advertiser

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM.]

PORTLAND (MAINE) PUBLISHED BY ISAAC ADAMS, No. 7 FISH-STREET.

[PAYABLE YEARLY.]

No. 32, of Vol. X.]

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1807.

[Whole No. 500.]

LOAF SUGAR.

JUST received by CHARLES & JOHN FOX, 30 casks Philadelphia LOAF SUGAR—which they offer very cheap for cash or on a liberal credit.

Also—in Store,

Complete assortment of Philadelphia CAM-BOUSES.

Few tons LINGUMVITA

10 tons NAIL PLATES

Hyfon and Hyton skin TEAS

30 bbls. clear, navy, mels and cargo No. 1, PORK

Together with a general assortment of Ship-Chandlery.

Nov. 16 (5w)

Cram & Atherton,

HAVE received by the Horatio from Liverpool, a large assortment of Elegant PE-RISE FLANNELS, all colours. Nov. 16

John P. Thurston & Co.

Have for sale,

60 boxes Spermaceti Candles,

30 chests Teas, warranted 1st quality,

100 casks English Nails } entitled to

120 crates low priced "are } Delivered

Nov. 16.

FOR SALE, BY

J. Richardson,

No. 3, Long-Wharf,

200 bbls. Mels and No. 1 Beef,

200 do No. 2 and 3 do

200 half bbls. Mels No. 1 do

50 bbls No 1 and 2 Pork,

100 hhd's Liverpool Salt. Nov. 16.

FLOUR.

NOW landing, and for sale by E. GREELY & CO. No 13, Union-Wharf, 200 bbls. Philadelphia Flour.

Also—in store,

10 Hhd's Gaudaloupe Sugar for retailing,

4 do St Croix do

20 bbls Pork. Nov. 16

Cedar Posts.

FOR sale, 500 CEDAR POSTS, by INGRAHAM & GOULD. Likewise—2000 quintals CODFISH.

Also,

An excellent shop STOVE,

Nov. 16. On Ingraham's-Wharf.

Fencing School.

MR. DELANDE, informs those gentlemen who wish to subscribe for his Fencing School, that a subscription paper is lodged with Capt. Levi Bradlee, for the purpose of receiving their names. As no more than 15 scholars can be admitted at a time, those who are inclined to attend will do well to apply immediately. To commence the 1st of December next. Terms 8 dollars for those gentlemen who attended his school last winter, and 10 dollars for new scholars, per quarter.

Those gentlemen who may please to subscribe, are requested to meet at Mr. Beaumont's Inn, in Fore-street, on the 25th of Nov. inst. for consultation. Nov. 16.

Cork and Walking Shoes, MADE at the shortest possible notice and of the very best materials, by

S. J. Wyman.

at their shop, head of Fifth-street.—The prices are such as cannot fail to give general satisfaction to those who wish to purchase.

Country Traders supplied with Ladies Shoes on the lowest terms for ready pay. Nov. 16

Shakespeare's Plays.

SUBSCRIPTIONS for Murree & Francis' edition of Shakespeare's Plays, now publishing in Boston, received at the Book-store of ISAAC ADAMS, No. 7, Fish-street.

CONDITIONS.

This work will be printed in 9 duodecimo

volumes and be delivered at 83 cents per vol.

In extra boards, payable on delivery.

An engraved Title Page, with a head of the author shall accompany each volume.

An alphabetical list of subscribers names shall be given with the last volume.

Three volumes are already printed, a specimen of the work may be seen as above.

Nov. 16 6w

William Gorham,

Has just received, and for sale, A few pipes of Gin—do casks of Rallins, A quantity of Batavia Nums, and A fresh supply of Connecticut Cheese. Nov. 16.

Doctor Coffin,

INFORMS the public that he has formed a connection in business with Doctor JOHN MERRILL, who will reside in his family. Nov. 16.

London Hats & Shoes.

Joshua Shaw,

INFORMS his friends and customers that he has received his Fall and Winter supply, consisting of hats of men's superfine Beaver Hats of an improved make; 1 cask of ladies' Beaver Hats and Bonnets; 1 trunk plaided & patent Kid Shoes; and a large assortment of ladies', misses', and children's Morocco Shoes. Also—A large assortment of gentlemen's Boots and Shoes, manufactured under his own inspection, of the newest fashions, and warranted to be of the first quality.

Portland, Oct. 26.

Communications.

FOR THE PORTLAND GAZETTE.

MR. ADAMS,

THE 26th of November, inst. being appointed by the authority of this Commonwealth, as a day of Public Thanksgiving and Praise, it cannot be deemed querulous, or incompatible with our duty as citizens, to enquire how far the Proclamation; now before the public, is calculated to answer the original design of this laudable, pious and venerable institution. We are told that it is in imitation of the example of our pious ancestors, that we are requested to lay aside our ordinary occupations, and present ourselves in the sanctuary with grateful hearts to the Author & Preserver of our existence, and the bestower of all our mercies; but to ascertain how far this example had influence in dictating this proclamation, we need only compare the things recommended as subjects of thanksgiving and praise, with those recommended in former proclamations.—Though many things are mentioned with the strictest propriety, and which really merit our grateful acknowledgments; yet the proclamation as an instrument of this nature, discovers unpardonable deficiency. It is a principle of natural as well as a precept of revealed religion, that we should confess our dependence on the invisible "Father of our spirits," and that we should thank and praise Him for all his beneficence to us, his unworthy creatures. We ought, in the language of the proclamation, to feel thankful, "that he put it into the hearts of our ancestors" to encourage science, and the necessary and useful arts of life; that He enabled them to repel an invading foe; and that He preserves us from oppression, and affords us the inestimable privilege of a mild and equitable government. It is proper and commendable, that we should "express our gratitude by munificence to the poor," that "to our gratitude we should unite true and sincere repentance" for all our sins, and that we should "ardently and sincerely" endeavor "to discourage intemperance and wickedness, and to encourage and promote piety, virtue, morality & religion." These things ought to be done; but there are other things of greater importance, that, on such an occasion as this, ought not to be left undone. Even the sages among the Heathen who were morally disposed, confessed all these obligations, and pretended to discharge many of them by frequent festivals consecrated to their fictitious deities.

But it will be asked, does not the proclamation recommend thankfulness, that "the place of our habitation" is "marked out where the gospel is enjoyed?" I answer, it is barely mentioned, and a selfish deity might do the same; for men of this stamp have not been wanting, who have confessed the happy tendency of christianity upon the morals of society. But the gospel is not mentioned as the way and only way of salvation. It is not mentioned as a rich, invaluable, and distinguishing blessing, without which all other mercies would only tend to lead us farther from God, and ultimately aggravate our ruin. It is not noticed as a system of grace originating in the pure mercy of our heavenly Father, and worthy of all acceptance. And where is the name of its Author and Founder? Not surely in this proclamation. The very merits of a Redeemer as procuring pardon and salvation, are excluded. Does this look like an imitation of our pious ancestors? Let their public proclamations, and the records of their lives, principles and actions, solve the question.

With what impressions, those who minister at the Altar of the Redeemer, and profess to be devoted to his service and to the promotion of his kingdom, will receive and read this proclamation, I will not take it upon me to determine; but I believe they must confess that subjects of piety must mourn.

The present is a time peculiarly interesting to the christian world, and nothing could be more appropriate, than the great exertions which are making for the spread of christianity, and the evident blessing with which they are attended, should be included among the recommendations for a day of public Thanksgiving. While many of the most illustrious and benevolent characters of every protestant kingdom of Europe are sacrificing their time & ease and wealth, and some forsaking their native home, and traversing the inhospitable and dreary regions of Asia and Africa to make known the glad tidings of salvation to the wretched, benighted and perishing Heathen; ought not we who enjoy the gospel to offer at least our thanksgivings to Almighty God for their present, and our prayers for their future success? But not the most distant, or obscure allusion to any of these things can be found in the proclamation. The eulogium paid the president is forced, ill-timed, awkward, and inapplicable. Every peasant who "ventures abroad beyond the smoke of his own chimney," knows that it does not naturally result from the present situation of our country; and the late message of the president relative to our foreign affairs, expressly contradicts the intended compliment. I do not object to any one's attachment to the present administration; I only lament that men of talents, should, by an unreasonable devotedness, and puerile servility, render themselves contemptible in view of a reflecting community. It is hoped our Ministers will be more faithful to the cause of their divine Master, than our rulers have been, or the intentions of our "pious ancestors" will no more be answered by this day of THANKSGIVING than by the celebrations of the revels of Bacchus, or the Olympic games.

NO DEIST.

FOR THE PORTLAND GAZETTE.

MR. ADAMS,

HAVING seen in the newspapers some observations upon the COMET, which is still visible; and, in one or two instances, his place in the heavens; but no regular account of his progress, I thought it might not be amiss to send you, for publication, some extracts from a series of observations made in this town every fair evening since the 30th of September. These will be sufficient to trace his path among the Constellations, without troubling you with the journal of every day.

I will premise that the distances were taken soon after the Comet became visible in the evening, with as much accuracy as the eye and the sextant would permit; and are, to the best of my judgment, pretty near the truth. But the problems, being all worked upon a twelve-inch celestial globe, cannot, for obvious reasons, lay a like claim to exactness. However, the data being given, any person having the skill and the curiosity can solve them geometrically to suit himself.

Sept. 30th, 1807.—The Comet distant from [Oct. 7, 1807.]
Abengue, (1) 6° 27' Arcturus, 21° 20'
Arcturus, (2) 21° 24' Arcturus, 52° 00'
Rt. ascension, 222 02 Rt. ascen, 52° 42'
N. declination, 1 20 N. declination, 229 23
From the sun, 16 30 N. declen. 8 20
Just in the west'n edge Fr'm the sun 25 22
of the constellation serpens. In Serpens.

Oct. 11. Nov. 10.
Arcturus, 23° 13' Arcturus, 12° 26'
Abengue, 46 40 Atair, 37 26
Atair, 59 50 R. ascen, 263 25
R. ascension, 233 45 N. declination, 32 50
N. declination 11 20 Sun, 55 30
From the sun, 29 30 In Hercules.

Oct. 20. Nov. 16.
Arcturus, 25° 53' Arcturus, 6° 31'
Abengue, 35 29 Atair, 55 22
Atair, 51 25 Rt. ascen, 269 45
Rt. ascen, 243 15 N. declen. 35 48
N. declination 18 35 Sun, 55 55
From the sun, 38 55 In Hercules, and about 30° south-
In Hercules, & south- easterly from the star in
a little more than half his left knee.

Oct. 28. Abengue, 26° 19'
Atair, 45° 22'
Right Ascension, 250° 53'
North Declination, 21° 00'
Sun, 40° 27'
In Hercules.

His lustre has gradually diminished since the 6th September, and is now scarcely to be discerned by the naked eye, but is very plainly to be seen through a telescope.

That this illustrious stranger, whose path is among the stars, and whose splendid appearance, either in his approach to, or recess from the sun, has been viewed with wonder and admiration by every eye in every world of our system; has travelled through the territories of Serpens, and is now journeying in the empire of Hercules, is all I certainly know. That he will soon arrive at the limited dutchy of Lyra, whence he will pass through the wide domains of Cygnus, and so on into the boundless regions of Expansum, I can venture to foretell.—But whence he came, or to what country he belongs—whether solely to ours, or whether he is a chain that binds one system to another: whether he was ever here before, or will ever visit us again: whether his task is to replenish our system with fire, air and water, or to take away redundancies: whether his inhabitants are happy or unhappy beings; or whether he is inhabited at all—I neither know, nor have the least concern. Believing, as I most firmly do, that whatever his errand may be, it is of the most friendly and beneficent kind; and that our well being—may, our very existence and that of the whole solar system, not to say of the universe itself, in some way depend upon, and are connected with it.

ALDERAMIN.

Portland, Nov. 17, 1807.
P. S. I will just mention that Mr. Folger, at Nantucket, on the 24th Sept. took the distance of the Comet from

Arcturus, 239 30
Abengue, 65° 23'

NOTES.

(1) Abengue (or Vega) a star in the Constellation Lyra.

(2) Arcturus, a star in the skirt of the Constellation Boies.

(3) Atair (or Alcair) a star in the head of Aquila.

I have given the right ascension and declination rather than the latitude and longitude, because the problems are easier solved, and, I believe, better understood.

By the Posts.

GALLANT ACTION.—The following article is copied from a Bridgetown (Barbadoes) paper of Oct. 6. "The capture of the enemy's privateer Janna Richard, by the Windsor-castle-packet, mentioned in our paper of Saturday, on which day they arrived here, will, in a comparative degree, ever rank among the most gallant achievements of our navy, and truly deserves every encomium that can be bestowed upon it. The disparity of force between the two vessels puts this brilliant action in the clearest point of view, and serves further to establish the general reputation of our seamen; while it reflects great credit upon the cool and collected

courage of Mr. Rogers, acting captain, as well as on the steady, good conduct and discipline of his crew. The Windsor Castle carries four 6 and two 4 pounders, and twenty-eight men; the privateer six 9's, and one long 18 pounder amidsthips, worked on a traverse, and ninety-eight men. The action, from its commencement, (which was on the part of the enemy at long shot) to its close, was nearly three hours, but it was in a hard fight about twenty minutes, yard arm and yard arm, that the victory was gained. The enemy run on board the packet, and hung on her grapple and with her musketry and traverse guns did her much injury; but capt. Rogers availing himself of the height of his quarters, kept up so galling a fire of musketry, the enemy was foiled in every attempt to throw his men on board, numbers of whom were also picked from her shrouds and netting in their efforts to get over. One of the quarter deck guns of the packet being also brought to bear fore and aft on the enemy, the captain ordered an additional charge of one-hundred musket balls, which was poured in upon her with such dreadful slaughter, that her deck was instantly covered with killed and wounded, and such a general panic given the whole crew, that the remainder fled from their quarters.—Capt. Rogers with equal presence of mind & promptitude, seized the occasion, and with five men only, leaped on board the enemy, who were instantly secured by battering down the main hatch, and guarding the fore scuttle; from whence after himself striking the enemy's colours, they were ordered up, one at a time, and secured with their own irons, which they were compelled to produce. The loss of the packet in this bold and gallant affair, was three killed and ten wounded; that of the enemy, 33 killed and 31 wounded; which even still gave her a superiority of number over the original complement of the packet, and more than double that which remained after the surrender.—The mizen mast of the Windsor Castle is totally disabled, and her sails and rigging much cut up; the privateer is but little injured in either hull or rigging, and is a remarkably fine schooner, and has been one of the most successful of the enemy's cruisers."

BOSTON, NOV. 14.

ALARMING TO COMMERCE.

FROM ANTWERP, Sept. 28, 1807.

"We understand, an order has been given out by the Emperor, to capture every vessel, bound to, or from England, and if with cargoes, are to be considered as good prize. This is a mortal blow to the American Commerce; and we fear will lead to a rupture between America and France."

A gentleman, who came passenger in the *Sally-Baker-Winsor*, informs us, "That two cases of capture, [American] made since, and under the Decree of the 21st of Nov. 1806, were brought before the Prize Court at Bordeaux, a short time before he left that city; but the Court had refused to give an opinion, until fresh instructions should be received from the Emperor.—These instructions were called for by the Court, and a question demanded—Whether the Decree was to be put in full force against the Americans? His answer was, That in effect, the law must operate against them as with all other neutrals."

We are favored with the following article from a source which may be relied on.

"Answers were given by the Emperor, to the Council of Prizes, on the 23d Sept. last to the following Questions:—

1st. Whether there should be any exceptions to the decree of Nov. 21, 1806, in favour of such nations, as, by their treaties, were allowed a free trade, or the privilege of neutralizing enemies' property. ANSWER, That as the Decree, contained no exceptions, there should not be any made in its application.

2d. Whether neutral vessels, in ballast, should also be made liable to confiscation, upon the plea of capture, or stress of weather, if they had entered a British port. ANSWER, That it must lay over for further consideration.

3d. Whether one half of the confiscated property, should, in all cases, be appropriated towards indemnifying sufferers by British spoiliations.—The answer was in the affirmative.

The fate of the two greatest warriors that Russia has produced, is a proof of the deficiency of motive offered on her part to her veterans, to exert themselves against the Lord of Europe. Suwarow, the most efficient antagonists ever opposed to Bonaparte died broken and disgraced after all his victories. Bennigsen was a worthy successor; and would have done more honor to the Russian arms had his noble and patriotic views not been counteracted by the nerveless policy of his master. We are informed by respectable authority, that Bennigsen was decidedly opposed to peace. That he begged the Emperor Alexander to return to Petersburg and leave the management of the war to him. He openly professed the Fabian and Washington policy. He declared that his army was not competent to a general engagement with the forces of his antagonist, but says his design was, by partial conflicts to inure his troops to war; to make them veterans. In doing this, his design was to lead Bonaparte into the confines of Russia, where the French army could reinforce with difficulty & he with ease, then by a disposition of recruits, who could be furnished in any numbers, among the veterans, he promised himself his eventual triumph would be complete. Rational as the plan appears, it was rejected. Alexander & Talleyrand had an interview. Bennigsen was allowed to retire, and a peace was concluded.

Foreign Intelligence.

LONDON, SEPT. 27.

British State Paper.

DECLARATION.

HIS Majesty owes to himself and to Europe a frank Exposition of the motives which have dictated his late measures in the Baltic. His Majesty has delayed this Exposition only in the hope of that more amicable arrangement with the Court of Denmark, which it was His Majesty's first wish and endeavor to obtain, for which he was ready to make great efforts and great sacrifices; and of which he never lost sight, even in the moment of the most decisive hostility.—Deeply as the disappointment of this hope has been felt by His Majesty, he has the consolation of reflecting, that no exertion was left untried on his part to produce a different result. And while he laments the cruel necessity which has obliged him to have recourse to acts of hostility against a Nation with which it was His Majesty's most earnest desire to have established the relations of common interests and alliance; His Majesty feels confident that, in the eyes of Europe and of the world, the justification of his conduct will be found in the commanding and indispensable duty, paramount to all others amongst the obligations of a Sovereign, of providing, while there was yet time, for the immediate security of his people.—His Majesty had received the most positive information of the determination of the present Ruler of France to occupy, with a military force, the territory of Holstein, for the purpose of excluding Great-Britain from all her accustomed channels of communication with the Continent; of including or compelling the Court of Denmark to close the passage of the Sound against the British Commerce and Navigation; and of availing himself of the aid of the Danish Marine for the invasion of Great-Britain and of Ireland.—Confident as His Majesty was of the authenticity of the sources from which this intelligence was derived, and confirmed in the credit which he gave to it, as well by the notorious and repeated declarations of the enemy, and by its recent occupation of the towns and territories of other neutral States, as by the preparations actually made for collecting a hostile force upon the frontiers of his Danish Majesty's Continental Dominions, His Majesty would yet willingly have borne to act upon this intelligence, until the complete and practical disclosure of the plan had made manifest to all the world the absolute necessity of resisting it. His Majesty did forbear, as long as there could be a doubt of the urgency of the danger, or a hope of an effectual counteraction to it, in the means or in the dispositions of Denmark.—But His Majesty could not but recollect that when, at the close of the former war the Court of Denmark engaged in a hostile Con-